

**Apollo 11 Silver Anniversary
With Vice President Al Gore
Beverly Hills, CA
7/16/94**

I love it. It's great to be back in L.A., you don't have events like this in Washington. You're excited, God, it's great to be back.

I have two very special privileges tonight, and let me start with the first. John F. Kennedy set us on a course to the moon. He challenged us to land a human being on the Moon, within a decade, not because it would be easy, but because it would be difficult. And tonight, tonight we celebrate the realization of that dream. And in commemoration of that, John F. Kennedy, Jr. has asked me to read the following letter to you:

"I wanted to thank you all for inviting me to participate in this auspicious commemoration, and I wish that I could be there with you. I know how proud my father would have been of the extraordinary record of excellence that our country has achieved in space over the past quarter of a century.

"Perhaps the greatest lesson of the mission to the moon is the confidence it should give us that we can succeed in other missions too. My hope on this impressive anniversary is that our success in space will inspire us to work harder together to meet and master the many challenges we face here on Earth. Sincerely, John F. Kennedy, Jr."

And now, it gives me great privilege to introduce to you, Vice President Al Gore. He's been an inspiration to me and he participated in leading my confirmation hearings in the House and the Senate. When I met him, and as I work with him, I see a man solely committed to the future—not just the future of the space program but a bright future for our nation and the world.

When he assumed the Vice Presidency, he led the charge to regain a direct and meaningful connection with the American people and the federal government that serves them. And thanks to the Vice President's leadership and vision, we have started a revolution in the government. And this revolution has touched the space station design. In the last year and half under his direction, the space agency has been able to eliminate bureaucracy, get going in the right direction. We've turned that \$30 billion into deficit reduction and we have a much stronger and a much better program.

As we speak here tonight, the shuttle is flying overhead also with the experts of America. And it's no exaggeration to say that without the unprecedented proactive efforts by the Vice President and President Clinton, the

international space station would have been killed in Congress a few weeks ago. Vice President Gore made three separate trips to the Hill to brief the House Science Committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Freshman Caucus. The night before the House vote, he called 15 members. And that was in addition to the 20 Members that he spoke to before the vote.

If it weren't for the Vice President's backing, the space station might well be facing a lingering death and the nation's space program along with it. Instead, we are looking at a bright and exciting future that will transform relations with Russia, both in space and on the Earth.

It is an unbelievable pleasure and distinct honor for me to introduce to you the Vice President of the United States, Al Gore.

Reading of JFK, Jr. Message
and
Introduction of the Vice President
Apollo 25th Anniversary Reception
July 16, 1994

I have two very special privileges tonight.

John F. Kennedy set us on course to the moon. He charged us to land a human being on the moon within a decade not because it would be easy, but because it would be difficult. And tonight, of course, we celebrate the realization of his dream.

I'd like to read to you a message from John F. Kennedy, Jr.:

(Read Message)

And now I want to introduce a very special guest to you.

Vice President Al Gore has been an inspiration to NASA, and to me personally. I first met him during my confirmation hearings as NASA Administrator. I saw a man totally committed to the future. Not just the future of the space program, but to a bright future for our nation and the world.

After he assumed the Vice Presidency, Al Gore led the charge to regain a direct and meaningful connection between the American people and the federal government that serve them. Thanks to the Vice President's leadership and vision, we have started a revolution within NASA. We are reinventing ourselves. We turned back 30 percent of the NASA 5-year budget to Congress for deficit reduction, and we're very proud of that.

And it's no exaggeration to say that without the unprecedented, proactive efforts by the Vice President and President Clinton, the international space station program might well have been killed in Congress a few weeks ago.

Vice President Gore made three separate trips to the Hill to brief the House Science Committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Freshman Caucus. The night before the House vote, he called about 15 members. That was in addition to the 15 to 20 he had spoken with before.

If it weren't for the Vice President's backing, the space station might well be facing a lingering death—and the nation's space program with it. Instead, we are

looking at a bright, exciting future that will transform our relations with Russia both in space and on Earth.

It's my great and distinct pleasure to introduce to you the Vice President of the United States, Albert Gore.